

Homemade Live System Base Mix Part 2

By Mark Brisley.

Having arrived at Kingfisher Lake on the Bluebell complex on an early August Friday afternoon after making a further 4 kilo from the life system base mix in 18mm boilies, I took the usual drive round to see which swims were free. This time the lake was quite quiet as only 5 anglers were on. I noticed that the lock bank swim was free and my mate Chris was fishing in the swim two up from this so I decided, as I had caught from the lock bank before, I would go in there and have a bit of a social with my mate Chris. He made me a brew and told me that a couple of fish had been out of the point swim but, as this was already being fished, I decided to set up in the lock bank. I decided to stick with my usual tactics of putting the marker out at the same spot where I had the brace of commons, preceded by 2 kilos of bait introduced by the throwing stick. So, out went my 4 rods in a line, all within an area the size of a tennis court.

Having set up, Chris and I sat down with another brew watching a few fish showing in front of the points, thinking may be we had set up in the wrong area! I eventually decided to turn in on this thought just hoping that the fish would move in on us.

Lying awake most of the night, with liners, I was wondering whether I was ever going to get a take. I must have nodded off because at around 5am I was awoken by a one-toner from my middle rod. The usual scenario followed as I jumped straight into my chesties, struck into a very angry carp that proceeded to take 20 yards of line off the spool and then gladly managed to stop it. Bit by bit I started to gain a few yards and then off it went again on another powerful run. The fish in this lake must have had 3 shredded wheat because they never seem to give up in their fight for freedom! This time, standing in the lake chest high in water and feeling that I was there a long time because of the aching arms, I was slowly gaining line bit by bit and caught the first sight of her ten yards from the bank when she popped her head up. I was slowly guiding her to the net when obviously she didn't fancy going in first time and decided to go on another run of about 15 yards. I finally managed to stop and turn her towards me and this time as I got her up to the top when she seemed to just wallow about on the surface and, this time, stuck the net under her, realising it was a mirror.



I left her in the net, weighed her and got Chris to do the photos. The result was a quite beautiful 35lb 5oz mirror in all its early autumn glory. One again it had proved that the homemade bait had to be working!

This was the only fish of my 48 hour session but I was understandably well chuffed with the result.

*Best wishes
Mark Brisley*